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C-130J AIRCRAFT DROPS CARGO OFF INSTALLATION

C-130J Aircraft Drops Cargo Off Installation (December 9, 2004)

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP (Dec. 9) – A Maryland Air National Guard C-130J practicing tactical operations at the air-to-ground-range here today released a practice pallet off the installation around noon.

The pallet landed some 2.5 miles west of the installation on a vacant lot near Piketown Road. There were no injuries and no apparent damage.

The 4 ft. by 4 ft. pallet was comprised of four, 55-gallon, water-filled containers. It weighed 900 pounds. The parachute opened as programmed. The pallet has been recovered to Fort Indiantown Gap.

The aircraft is assigned to the 135th Airlift Group, 175th Wing, Baltimore. The aircraft has been impounded. The air-to-ground range has stopped all C-130J operations.

The Maryland National Guard is investigating the incident.